

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Replace paragraph [00014] with the following paragraph:

-- FIG. 2 is a partially sectioned view of the inventive footwear of FIG. 1; and --

Replace paragraph [00017] with the following paragraph:

-- To minimize the vulnerability of the interface 42 of the present invention to water penetration, the outsole 14 is constructed with a relatively high water barrier wall 22 (FIGS. 1-3) and made of material including, among others, resin, waterproof leather, plastic and/or any other materials known to resist water penetration[[],]. Incorporation of the water barrier wall 22 in the outsole 14 provides an obstacle for water. Equally important for the waterproof purposes is the configuration of the water barrier wall 22. As shown in FIGS. 1-3, the water barrier wall 22 extends upwards from the outsole 14 and overlaps a bottom portion 50 of inner surface 44 (FIG. 2) of the upper 12. Thus, the portion of the upper 12 and the water barrier wall 22 constitute a two-layer water-resistant structure that is not punctured by stitching. Preferably, the water barrier wall 22 is continuous. However, depending on the particular design of the inventive footwear, it may be configured to extend only along a portion of the outsole's periphery.--